

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. MBHB01-1735-B; 400/140)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure provided by 35 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§ 1.97-98, the applicants wish to make the following references of record in the above-identified application. This application is a continuation-in-part of US Serial No. 10/306,747 filed November 27, 2002 and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with Rule 37 CFR §1.98(d), only copies of references not previously cited and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office with the prior application US Serial No. 10/306,747 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner (document numbers marked with “*” are not enclosed). Copies of all references cited are also listed in the PTO-1449 form enclosed herewith. It is requested that each document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing on Form PTO-1449. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to

use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

Portions of the references may be material to the examination of the pending claims, however no such admission is intended. 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (h). The references have not been reviewed in sufficient detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This Statement is not a representation that the cited references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103.

Foreign Patent Documents

- * European Patent Application No. EP 0 360 257, filed March 28, 1990
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- * International Patent Publication No. WO 93/23057, published November 25, 1993
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- 1. International Patent Publication No. WO 94/11499, published May 26, 1994
- 2. International Patent Publication No. WO 94/21791, published September 29, 1994
- * International Patent Publication No. WO 95/04142, published February 9, 1995
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- * International Patent Publication No. WO 01/29058, published April 26, 2001
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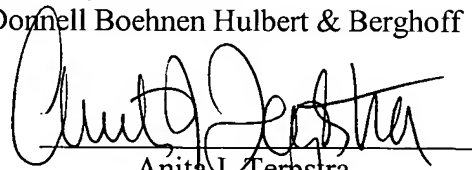
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In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested the document cited (including any cited in applicant's specification which is not repeated on the attached Form PTO-1449) be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing on Form PTO-1449. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does not consider a cited document to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

By:


Anita L. Terpstra
Registration No. 47,132

Dated: December 2, 2003

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MBHB01,1735-B
(400.140)

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TBA

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Lockridge et al.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	*	EP 0 360 257	03/28/90	EP (Hampel et al.)				
	*	WO 89/02439	03/23/89	WO (Arnold et al.)				
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